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FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0098  
INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 0088  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0001  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0001  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0007  
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 0001  
RUCNFRG/FRC COLLECTIVE  
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE  
RUEHAG/AMCONSUL HAMBURG 0112

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 HAMBURG 000085

SIPDIS  
SIPDIS

EO 12958 DECL: 12/19/2016  
TAGS KCRM, PTER, EAIR, PINR, PINS, KNNP, RS, GM, UK  
SUBJECT: HAMBURG POLICE TRACK POLONIUM TRAIL

HAMBURG 00000085 001.2 OF 002

CLASSIFIED BY: Duane Butcher, Consul General, Consulate General Hamburg, State. REASON: 1.4 (b)

¶1. (SBU) Summary: Hamburg State Police (LKA) confirmed December 14 that Dmitry Kovtun had left positive traces of polonium 210 in Hamburg prior to his arrival. The investigation is looking into several unanswered questions. Hamburg police are trying to discover whether Kovtun visited the United Kingdom in connection with the case and noted that Kovtun had met with an Italian national in Hamburg and that Italians played a role in the London investigation as well.  
¶2. (SBU) Pol/Econ Off and FSN Investigator met Hamburg LKA Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Officer and director of this special investigation. The investigation's main focus is to uncover Kovtun's whereabouts between October 28 and November 1 and to discover any polonium-contaminated items he may have brought with him from Moscow.  
- Kovtun arrived in Hamburg October 28 on the Aeroflot flight from Moscow and was picked up from the airport in a BMW. He spent that night at a house in Haselau outside of Hamburg.  
- On October 29, Kovtun spent the night at a house in Haselau outside of Hamburg, which is where police found the BMW. Both the Haselau residence and the apartment where Kovtun stayed were searched.  
- On October 30, Kovtun kept an appointment with the Office of Foreigner Registration in Hamburg-Altona, where he signed a document. His signature was forged.  
- Kovtun again spent the night of October 31 at Wall's apartment on Erzberger Strasse. He departed by taxi for the airport early on November 1.  
¶3. (SBU) Menzel said the investigation is looking into several unanswered questions. Hamburg police are trying to discover whether Kovtun visited the United Kingdom in connection with the case and noted that Kovtun had met with an Italian national in Hamburg and that Italians played a role in the London investigation as well.  
¶4. (SBU) Summary: Hamburg State Police (LKA) confirmed December 14 that Dmitry Kovtun had left positive traces of polonium 210 in Hamburg prior to his arrival. The investigation is looking into several unanswered questions. Hamburg police are trying to discover whether Kovtun visited the United Kingdom in connection with the case and noted that Kovtun had met with an Italian national in Hamburg and that Italians played a role in the London investigation as well.  
¶5. (C) Federal Interior Minister Deputy DG for Counterterrorism Gerhard Schindler discussed the status of the German investigation during a meeting with the Consul General.  
¶6. (U) This message has been coordinated with Embassy Berlin. BUTCHER